

House Resolution 1115

By: Representatives Williams of the 165th, Smyre of the 132nd, Brooks of the 63rd, McCall of the 30th, Murphy of the 120th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Memorial Project Foundation to use granite
2 from Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the foundation's mission is to commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin
4 Luther King, Jr., by leading the collaborative funding, design, and construction process of
5 a memorial to honor Dr. King's national and international contributions to peace through
6 nonviolent social change; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. King championed a movement that represents America's potential for
8 freedom, opportunity, and justice; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. King's vision of America was and continues to be a message of unity and
10 peaceful coexistence; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. King dreamed that America would see a day where children of different
12 races and economic backgrounds would one day stand side by side as equals in appreciation
13 of this great country; it is to that purposes that the foundation moves to forever memorialize
14 Dr. King with granite in Washington D. C.; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. King was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 15, 1929, he attended high
16 school in Atlanta, and he ultimately graduated from Morehouse College with a Bachelor of
17 Arts degree in sociology in 1948; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. King's grandfather, A.D. Williams, began his family's long tradition of
19 leadership at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, serving as pastor from 1894 to 1931; his
20 father served as pastor from 1931 until 1975; and Dr. King served as copastor from 1960
21 until his assassination on April 4, 1968; and

1 WHEREAS, while Dr. King was a gift to the world, his connections to Georgia are countless,
2 and he is ultimately one of Georgia's greatest sons; and

3 WHEREAS, it is part of the foundation's current plan to use granite imported from China for
4 Dr. King's memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

5 WHEREAS, considering China's less than impeccable record with human rights, it is
6 inappropriate for a memorial honoring Dr. King's vision of human equality and love to be
7 constructed with granite from China; and

8 WHEREAS, it is only proper that the erection of any memorial in honor of Dr. King be made
9 of Georgia granite; let it be known that Georgia is ready, willing, and able to provide the
10 necessary granite for the construction of such memorial; and

11 WHEREAS, if the foundation ultimately finds that using Georgia granite is not practicable,
12 then the granite for Dr. King's memorial should be supplied by some source within the
13 United States, the country with which his memory will be forever intertwined in honor of
14 the monumental movement for change for which he gave his life.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
16 that the members of this body urge the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Memorial Project
17 Foundation use granite from Georgia or, at the very least, granite found domestically in the
18 United States for the construction of a memorial in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in
19 Washington D.C.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
21 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Martin Luther King, Jr.,
22 National Memorial Project Foundation.